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## Attenuation of LPS-induced changes in synaptic activity in rat hippocampus by Vasogen's Immune Modulation Therapy.

Nolan Y, Minogue A, Vereker E, Bolton AE, Campbell VA, Lynch MA.

Department of Physiology, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

Systemic injection of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) blocks the expression of long-term potentiation in the hippocampus of the rat. This is coupled with increased IL-1beta concentration and c-Jun NH(2)-terminal kinase activity, as well as an increase in the number of cells displaying apoptotic characteristics in the hippocampus. Vasogen's Immune Modulation Therapy (IMT) is a procedure involving intramuscular administration of syngeneic blood which has been exposed ex vivo to elevated temperature, oxidation and ultraviolet light. We report that Vasogen's IMT significantly abrogates these LPS-induced effects with a concomitant increase in the concentration of the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10. These data suggest that Vasogen's IMT may play a protective role against the deleterious effects of immune insults in the brain. Copyright 2002 S. Karger AG, Basel

PMID: 12207162 [PubMed - in process]

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## The effect of VAS972 on allergic contact hypersensitivity.

Shivji GM, Suzuki H, Mandel AS, Bolton AE, Sauder DN.

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Division of Dermatology, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Science Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

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**BACKGROUND:** Contact hypersensitivity (CHS) is a Th1-mediated immune response that can be down-regulated by immunosuppressive agents such as cyclosporine and environmental stimuli such as ultraviolet light. Recently, an immunomodulation therapy, VAS972, has been developed which is believed to down-regulate the Th1 arm of the immune response. This VAS972 involves modifying autologous blood by controlled exposure to the oxidizing agent ozone and UVC light, at an elevated temperature ex vivo. The processed blood is then administered by intramuscular injection. **OBJECTIVE:** To further evaluate the immune modulating effect of VAS972. **METHODS:** We examined the effect of VAS972 treatment on CHS. Contact hypersensitivity was induced with dinitrofluorobenzene (DNFB) in animals receiving VAS972- processed blood, control blood, or saline. A preliminary study was also conducted to evaluate the effect of plasma and cellular fractions of processed blood. **RESULTS:** Mice injected with VAS972-processed blood demonstrated a significantly lower (46%) CHS response than controls. Histologic examination of challenged ear skin from control mice displayed edema with a significant lymphocytic infiltration, whereas animals administered processed blood demonstrated a reduction in lymphocytic infiltration. Mice injected with either plasma or the cellular fraction of the VAS972-treated blood also demonstrated a significant suppression (49% and 41%, respectively). **CONCLUSION:** The results of this study demonstrated that VAS972 suppresses CHS and cellular infiltration. Furthermore, the plasma and cellular components of the VAS972 treatment were also able to induce immunosuppression. This further supports the hypothesis that VAS972 down-regulates the Th1 arm of the immune response.

PMID: 11003717 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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☐ 1: J Biol Regul Homeost Agents 1997 Jul-Sep;11(3):104-10

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## Effect of combined heat, ozonation and ultraviolet irradiation (VasoCare) on heat shock protein expression by peripheral blood leukocyte populations.

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**Bulmer J, Bolton AE, Pockley AG.**

Clinical Sciences Centre, University of Sheffield, UK.

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The re-administration of whole blood subjected to heat, ozonation and ultraviolet irradiation (VasoCare therapy) has been shown to elicit clinical benefits in individuals with vascular disease. Given that these stressors induce heat shock protein (Hsp) expression and that heat shock protein reactivity is implicated in the pathogenesis of vascular disease, this study assessed the effect of VasoCare on intracellular expression of Hsp60 and Hsp70 by treated peripheral blood leukocytes. Contrary to expectations, VasoCare induced a significant reduction (approximately 40%) in the proportion of peripheral blood mononuclear cells expressing intracellular Hsp60 and Hsp70, whereas it had no effect on heat shock protein expression by peripheral blood neutrophils. Cell surface heat shock protein expression was not detectable. The reduced expression of Hsp60 by mononuclear cells was concomitant with an increase in the levels of Hsp60 in treated plasma. Although the mechanism underlying the clinical effectiveness of VasoCare therapy has yet to be established, it may be that re-administration of treated blood or soluble factors derived therefrom modifies in vivo immune responsiveness to heat shock proteins or associated molecules.

PMID: 9498159 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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